

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 IGA-02 IO-14 /132 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 246107

E.O. 11652- GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SO, US, ET

SUBJECT: U.S.-SOMALI RELATIONS; ETHIOPIAN-SOMALI DISPUTE

1. FOLLOWING MEETING WITH ACTING SECRETARY RUSH (SEPTTEL), JELLE PAID BRIEF FAREWELL CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY NEWSOM. JELLE WAS ELATED OVER VERY SUCCESSFUL VISIT HERE AND NOTED HE HAD MET WITH SENATOR HUMPHREY, CONGRESSMAN ANDERSON, MAYOR WASHINGTON AND ACTING SECRETARY. HE EXPRESSED WARM APPRECIATION FOR OPPORTUNITY TO SEE LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS IN SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES.

2. JELLE TURNED TO ETHIOPIAN-SOMALI DISPUTE, CLAIMING ETHIOPIAN RADIO HAD RECENTLY BECOME JINGOISTIC AND AGGRESSIVE. HE CRITICIZED IEG'S "AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS" TOWARD SDR. IN SPITE OF THESE INTENTIONS, GSDR HAD NOT RETALIATED AGGRESSIVELY BUT HAD SUPPORTED INTERVENTION OF OAU GOOD OFFICES COMMITTEE. IN ADDITION, SIAD HAD OFFERED SEVERAL TIMES TO DISCUSS DISPUTE WITH HIM EITHER IN ADDIS OR MOGADISCIO, BUT IEG HAD NOT ACCEPTED OFFER. JELLE "OFFICIALLY REQUESTED" UNITED STATES TO USE ITS INFLUENCE TO

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BRING COUNTRIES TO DISCUSSION TABLE.

3. JELLE EXPRESSED HOPE FOR IMPROVED U.S.-SOMALI RELATIONS AND PROMISED GSDR WOULD DO ITS BEST TOWARD SUCH A GOAL. HE REQUESTED UNITED STATES TO RESUME AID TO SOMALIA AND FILL VACUUM LEFT BY 1970 AID CUTOFF.

4. NEWSOM REPLIED THAT NO BASIS EXISTED FOR GSDR TO BELIEVE UNITED STATES WORKING AGAINST IT. U.S. HAD NEVER TAKEN SIDES IN LONG-STANDING ETHIOPIAN-SOMALI DISPUTE AND CONTINUED TO HOPE FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF PROBLEM WHICH WOULD BENEFIT BOTH NATIONS AND PEOPLE OF DISPUTE AREA. SINCE IT IS U.S. POSITION THAT NON-AFRICAN NATIONS SHOULD NOT INTERVENE IN AFRICAN PROBLEMS, WE BELIEVE OAU SHOULD SHOULDERS RESPONSIBILITY FOR LESSENING TENSIONS AND RESOLVING DISPUTE NOW. NEWSOM NOTED SIMILAR IEG FEARS RE GSDR AND RECALLED RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH IEG OFFICIALS IN ADDIS WHERE HE WAS BUFFETED BY EXPRESSIONS OF IEG FEARS OF IMPENDING SOMALI ATTACK. SINCE FEAR MUTUAL, NEWSOM HOPED OAU COMMITTEE COULD CALM WORRIES OF BOTH SIDES.

5. NEWSOM PRAISED ADDOU'S DILIGENT WORK TO IMPROVE BILATERAL RELATIONS AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF COURTESIES EXTENDED AMBASSADOR KIRK IN MOGADISCIO. HE STATED U.S. DESIRES BEST POSSIBLE RELATIONS AND WILL CONTINUE TO WORK HARD TOWARD THAT GOAL.

6. IN SPIRIT OF IMPROVEMENT, NEWSOM REFERRED TO "MINOR PROBLEM" OF VALLEJO EXPULSION. JELLE EXPRESSED IGNORANCE OF CASE BUT PROMISED TO INVESTIGATE UPON HIS RETURN. HE ALSO PLEDGED THAT IF FUTURE EXPULSIONS SHOULD OCCUR, EMBASSY WOULD AT LEAST BE GIVEN FULL REASON FOR GSDR ACTION.

7. IN FAREWELL, JELLE ACCLAIMED NEWSOM "GREAT FRIEND OF SOMALIA" AND ISSUED OPEN INVITATION TO VISIT MOGADISCIO.

COMMENT: JELLE'S U.S. VISIT HERE OBVIOUSLY SUCCESSFUL. ACCESS TO IMPORTANT USG OFFICIALS AND RELEVANT TOUR TO SOUTHWEST REFLECT U.S. DESIRE FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS.
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OUR HIGH REGARD FOR AMBASSADOR ADDOU PROBABLY WILL BE REPORTED TO PRESIDENT SIAD AND SRC. RUSH

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Message Attributes

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